[4th November 1933

A.—(a) to (d) The Government have not the information. They have called for a report.

Fisheries

Restrictions on fishing in the Adyar river.

* 343 Q.—Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to lay on the table of the House the copy of the petition received by him from fishermen adversely affected by the cancellation of orders prohibiting the use of certain size of nets in a portion of the Adyar river, and referred to in the answer to supplementary question No. 681 of 15th March 1933, and the orders passed on the same?

A.—The two petitions[a] received by the Government on 28th December 1932 and 3rd April 1933 are laid on the table. The Government did not consider it necessary to pass any orders on them, as no new point was raised which was not already before Government when the order was cancelled.

Public Works

Public Works Department Workshops at Bezwada.

* 344 Q.—Mr. G. Simhachalam: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) in respect of the Public Works Department shops at Bezwada, whether the Government will be pleased to state from what year the combined headquarters and workshops of subdivision were bifurcated and the necessity for such a change;

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table of this House the sanctioned strength of the shops, scales of pay and the salaries of the present incumbents; and

(c) the loss sustained by the maintenance charges of the shops and the losses incurred during the years 1930–31, 1931–32 and 1932–33?

A.—(a) From July 1929. The necessity for the change was due to the fact that the Bezwada workshops could not be efficiently managed by the Subdivisional officer in addition to his work. As Subdivisional officer of the Headquarters subdivision he was in charge of the headworks, the Kistna anicut, the first two miles of the Bandar, Ryves, Ellore and West Main canals besides a number of buildings and other irrigation works. The Government were satisfied that the workshops should be separated from the Headquarters subdivision and placed in charge of a separate qualified mechanical engineer and that the Headquarters Subdivisional officer would have sufficient work even after being divested of the charge of the workshops. The Public

[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 612–613 infra.

Works Workshop Committee appointed in 1926 also recommended the appointment of a qualified mechanical engineer for the workshop, and the Government accepted this recommendation.

(b) (1) One Junior Superintendent of the Madras Engineering Workshops Service on a scale of pay of Rs. 375—50—525—50/2—575—50—625—50/2—675—50—975. The present pay of the holder of the post is Rs. 525 per mensem.

(2) One Foreman-Superintendent on Rs. 200—20—300.

(3) Four clerks on Rs. 35—60 or 60—80 grade.

(4) Two temporary draughtsmen on Rs. 60 each per mensem for three months every year.

(5) Two head maistris on Rs. 50—100 each per mensem.

Information as to the actual salaries drawn by the present incumbents of the posts under items (2) to (5) above is not available and has been called for.

(c) The losses on the working of the shops during 1930–31 and 1931–32 were Rs. 5,146 and Rs. 5,447 respectively. Information as regards the financial result of the working of the shops during 1932–33 is not yet available.

Local Self-Government

Proposals for the abolition of taluk boards.

* 345 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any proposals to abolish the taluk boards altogether; and

(b) if so, what they are and at what stage they are; and to whom the functions of taluk boards are to be entrusted?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 279.

Proposal of the Vice-President in charge of the Namakkal Taluk Board to hold the election of a President.

* 346 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Vice-President in charge of the Namakkal Taluk Board has asked the Government for permission to hold the President's election after the members' elections have been held for two vacant seats in that taluk board;

(b) on which date that correspondence was made;

(c) when that paper reached the Government from the President, District Board;

(d) the reasons for the delay;